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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

SUBJECT Tbilisi Yarn-Spinning and
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report, including a legend and sketch, of the Tbilisi [N 41-42, E 44-45] yarn-spinning and knitting combine. The legend contains descriptions of the thirteen buildings, and locations and operations of the various sections and shops within each building. The report also includes information on transportation, working conditions, security, and personnel.

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- 2 -

TBILISI YARN-SPINNING AND KNITTING COMBINEGeneral Description

1. The Tbilisi Yarn-Spinning and Knitting Combine (Tbiliskiy Pryadilno-Trikotazhnyy Kombinat), in operation since 1932, was located on Trikotazhnaya ulitsa about three hundred meters from Sovetskaya ulitsa, the main street in the Leninskiy rayon. This combine was subordinate to the Ministry of Light Industry. Cotton yarn of various yarn counts, nylon, and "espron" (a synthetic German fiber made of a petroleum and coal base) stockings were manufactured in this combine. These products were marked with the TPTK trademark. The mill, which contained thirteen buildings, was enclosed by a 2.3 meter high concrete wall with six entrances. On the north side of the plant was a 200-square-meter area where new plant installations were being constructed. The 13 plant buildings described below are shown on sketch on page 11.

50X1-HUM

Building No. 1

2. Yarn-Spinning and Knitting Shops: As the building was built on uneven terrain, one fourth of the floor space contained three stories and the other three quarters contained two stories. This was a fireproof "tuff" stone (Armenian stone, not further identified) building with structural concrete columns with a flat concrete roof with concrete beams. The following sections were found on the first floor:
 - a. Trepalnyy (Scutching) Section. This section received the cotton in 100-kilograms bales. The cotton was scutched and divided into 12-kilogram rolls which were then delivered to the various manufacturing sections on the first and second floors. This section employed 60 workers, and had one automatic Soviet-make machine in good state of repair;
 - b. Chesalnyy (Combing) Section No. 2. This section contained a combing machine which combed the cotton, removed the impurities, transformed it into 200 to 300-meter slivers which were led to the Roving Section. The machine was manufactured in the "Volcan" Plant in Leningrad. Six or seven women were employed in this section.
 - c. Rovnichnyy (Roving) Section No. 2. This section contained machines which passed the cotton through a machine with elastic rubber rollers and onto 300-gram size wooden spools. Eighteen machines, manufactured in Leningrad in about 1950, accomplished this step with great efficiency; two older machines took twice as long to perform the same process. Twenty female specialists worked in this section.
 - d. Krutilno-Montazhnyy (Spinning-Winding) Section No. 2. This was the final process in the manufacture of yarn. The yarn was passed through a Krutilnyy Vaternyy (ring spinning machine) which then wound the yarn on 50-gram size conical shaped spools. Yarn weights varied from a maximum of 20 to a minimum of 80. This section contained 32 machines in good condition which had been manufactured in Leningrad in about 1932. Ninety women were employed in this section.

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50X1-HUM

- 3 -

3. The following sections were found on the second floor of Building No. 1:

- a. Chesalnyy (Combing) Section No. 1. This section did the same work as Chesalnyy Section No. 2. It supplied cotton to the various sections on the second floor. This section contained about 78 machines, manufactured in Leningrad in about 1932, which did not produce very efficiently as they were in poor condition. Thirty women worked in this section.
- b. Rovnichnyy (Roving) Section No. 1. This section did the same work as Rovnichnyy Section No. 2 on the first floor. This section contained 27 spinning machines, ten of these spun coarse yarn and 17 spun fine yarn. Some of the machinery was [redacted] but the majority was of Soviet make manufactured in 1932. The machines were in poor condition and did not work efficiently. 50X1-HUM
- c. Vaternyy (Ring spinning) Section No. 1. This section produced spools of yarn from 20 to 80-weight as well as yarn for the hose-knitting. This section contained 113 "Karl Marx" ring spinning machines. The majority of the machines were made in 1932 and five were constructed in 1954. All the machines were in good condition and produced great quantities of yarn. One hundred and fifty women worked in this section.
- d. Krutilno-Montazhnyy (Spinning-Winding) Section No. 1. This section did the same work as Section No. 2 on the first floor but on a smaller scale and supplied the shops on the floor above. This section contained 20 old Soviet-make machines which had been manufactured in Leningrad in 1932. These machines were in good condition. Sixty women were employed in this section.
- e. Kottonizatsiya (Sic) Section. This section produced stockings using nylon and capron as well as cotton yarn. This section contained 30 Krasnyy Proletary machines which were in good condition. This section also contained ten German "Guelser" machines in good condition which had been installed after the war. These machines worked efficiently. One hundred and sixty workers, the majority of them women, were employed in this section.
- f. Ketelnyy (not further identified) Section. This section handled the final process in the manufacture of stockings. The section contained ten late-model German "Guelser" machines installed in 1953, replacing the obsolete machinery. Seventy-five workers were employed here.
- g. Vaternyy (Ring Spinning) Section No. 2. This section did the same work as Ring Spinning Section No. 1 but had greater output as the machinery was more modern. The seventy "Vulkan" machines were constructed in Leningrad in 1953 and installed in the plant in 1954. The machines were kept in good condition. This section employed 150 workers.
- h. Tinting and Shaping Section. This section performed two operations in the manufacture of stockings. One process was to shape the stockings and the other was to tint them different shades. This section contained the following equipment: six concrete vats, sixty stocking forms made of hard aluminum on which the stockings were steam-pressed, two iron centrifugal spinners for drying stockings. Each 1 x 2-meter spinner had a capacity for 500 to 600 pairs of stockings. The section employed sixty workers.

4. The third floor contained the following sections:

- a. Offices: Director's office, Chief Engineer of the Party committee, drafting office (15 employees), supply office (15 to 20 employees), accounting office (30 employees), Labor Union office (a chief, a liaison officer and two clerks), Workers' Protection office known by the initials RKKA, and the Personnel Records' office.

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50X1-HUM

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- 4 -

- b. Library. This library was available for the use of all plant personnel and contained several types of technical books and a Soviet encyclopedia. A woman was in charge of signing out books.
- c. Laboratory. The quality of the finished products and raw materials was checked here. [redacted] A female textile engineer with 25 chemical technicians and assistants who were not specialists were employed here. 50X1-HUM
- d. Polyclinic. This was a small hospital which employed six doctors including a general practitioner, a lung specialist, a dentist, and a venereal disease specialist. Each doctor was assisted by a nurse. The hospital contained radiotherapy equipment. Patients were attended by doctors only in the morning; in the afternoon and at night they were cared for by a nurse. This was considered to be an emergency clinic and patients who had long illnesses were sent to one of the hospitals in Tbilisi.
- e. Apprentice School. This school contained two classrooms and employed four professors. Each classroom had a capacity of 50 students. Workers were given courses in order that they might receive a higher category in the textile field or become specialists such as electricians, mechanics, or fitters. Since workers studied outside of work hours, class hours were dependent upon the shift hours. Classes lasted two hours with a half hour recess. During the summer months, these classes were substituted by classes on political subjects such as the History of the Bolshevik Party or Stalin's autobiography which were taught by a Party representative who might also have been a worker. Attendance to these classes was not obligatory [redacted] 50X1-HUM

Building No. 2

- 5. Women's residence and nursery. This was a two-story L-shaped "tuff" stone fireproof building with a shed-type sheet metal roof. On the first floor was the women's residence and on the second floor was the day nursery which had a capacity for about 100 children between the ages of two months and three years. The nursery employed a doctor, a nurse, various nursemaids, and ten other employees.

Building No. 3

- 6. Laundry. This was a 10 x 5 x 3-meter red brick, one-story, slant-roofed structure with a cement-covered wood framework. This section contained five "Lepse" 1 kilowatt washing machines, which had been manufactured in Moscow in 1955 and installed [redacted] in this mill during the summer of the same year. These washing machines were very powerful. This section also contained a "Lepse" electric sterilizer (made in 1955) with "Micron" resistors. 50X1-HUM

Building No. 4

- 7. Transformer substation. This was a 30 x 8 x 5-meter dark, red brick fireproof building with a sheet metal roof. It contained five transformers which supplied electricity to the whole plant. These transformers were described as follows: One 100 kilovolt ampere, two 1,000 kilovolt-ampere, one 540 kilovolt-ampere, and one 320 kilovolt-ampere transformers. The 540 kilovolt-ampere transformer was marked [redacted] and was made [redacted] the other were marked "KHEZ" and were made in Kharkov. The current entered the mill at 600 volts and was stepped down to 380 volts by the 100 and 320 kilovolt-ampere transformers and was stepped up to 500 volts by the 1,000 and 540 kilovolt-ampere transformers. 50X1-HUM

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50X1-HUM

- 5 -

These transformers which had been installed in the mill when it was opened in 1932, were in perfect condition. Four electricians were in charge of the maintenance of this installation.

Building No. 5

8. Warehouse. This was a 50 x 10 x 6-meter one-story, brick structure with a wooden framework and a tiled roof. This building, which was not fireproof, was used for storing cotton and other raw materials. The structure had a 25 to 30 metric-ton capacity. Twenty workers, with three supervisors in charge, loaded and unloaded merchandise.

Building No. 6

9. Central heating plant. This was a 25 x 20 x 5-meter, brick and reinforced concrete, fireproof, one-story structure with a basement where the ashes were kept. This plant not only supplied the heat to the entire mill in the winter but in summer it supplied hot water and steam to the Tinting and Shaping Section. This structure contained the following Soviet-make machinery: two 80-kilogram pressure steam boilers, one of which was installed in 1932 and the other in 1955, and three "Lepse" 40 kilowatt centrifugal water pumps, two of which were installed in 1932 and the other in 1955. All the machinery was in good condition. This section also contained a two-metric-ton capacity crane. Four workers were employed on each of the two daily shifts.

Building No. 7

10. Carpentry shop. This was a 30 x 15 x 6-meter one-story brick structure with a wooden framework and a tar-paper shed roof. This shop produced various items which were used in the mill such as work benches, clothes, closets, doors, windows, wooden bodies for trucks, and other items which were essential to the mill. The carpentry shop contained the following machinery: two standard lathes, four circular saws, two band saws, four old Krasnyy Oktyabr drills, made in Moscow, which were in poor condition, one Soviet-make planer which had been installed in approximately 1953 and was in good condition. Thirty workers were employed on the one eight-hour day shift.

Building No. 8

11. Machine and electric shops and offices. This was a two-story "tuff" stone construction building with a tar-paper-covered sheet-metal roof. This building contained the machine shop and electric shop on the first floor and various offices on the second floor. These sections were described as follows:

- a. Machine shop. This shop, which employed from 75 to 80 workers, produced such items as spare parts, gears, and screws which were used in the mill. It contained the following machinery:

2 Krasnyy Proletariy lathes, type DIP-200, in good condition.

1 DIP-300 lathe manufactured in the Kirov Plant in Tbilisi.
This was a 1945 model in good condition.

2 old Komsomol lathes manufactured in Odessa which were in very poor condition.

3 planers; two Proletariy planers and one "Krasnyy Oktyabr" planer made in Moscow. All were in good condition.

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50X1-HUM

- 6 -

2 large drills.

1 small drill in poor condition.

- b. Electric shop. This employed from 75 to 80 workers and was charged with repairing electric equipment such as the spinning machines. This shop contained the following equipment:

2 small old lathes in poor condition.

1 large drill.

- c. The accounting office, draftsmen's office, electrical and mechanical engineers' office were located on the second floor and had the following personnel:

3 accountants.

4 draftsmen.

1 mechanical engineer.

1 electrical engineer.

Building No. 9

12. Warehouse. This was a 30 x 15 x 4-meter one-story red brick building with a wood framework and a tar-paper-covered roof. This structure was not fireproof. The following materials were stored here: all types of electrical equipment and machinery, spare parts, cables, engines, motors, tires, paint, "capron", nylon, viscose fiber, screws, wool, linen, and clothing for the workers. One chief, one accountant, and one laborer who loaded and unloaded materials were employed here. 50X1-HUM

Building No. 10

13. Garage. This was a 30 x 30 x 10-meter one-story "tuff" stone, fireproof building with a slate-covered concrete roof. The vehicles here were in good condition: the trucks were used to transport plant supplies, the buses were used to transport workers, and the passenger cars were used by the administrative officials. The following vehicles were housed in the garage:

1 three metric-ton ZIS-5 truck.

1 four and a half metric-ton ZIS-150 truck.

3 two and a half metric-ton GAS-55 trucks.

1 truck carrying a crane of unknown make.

1 GAS-55 bus with a capacity for 22 persons.

1 ZIS-5 bus with a capacity for 42 persons.

1 POBEDA passenger car which had been manufactured in Gorkiy.

1 MOSKOVICH passenger car.

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- 7 -

Building No. 11

14. Workers' quarters. These were in a 30 x 10 x 5-meter two-story "ruff" stone structure with a wooden framework and a sheet metal roof. This building was not fireproof. Each floor contained twenty 16 x 18-meter rooms; one room was assigned to a family.

Building No. 12

15. Dining room, library and club. This structure which contained the dining room, library, and club was a two-story L-shaped structure with a wooden framework and a tile roof. Half of the size of the floorspace contained a two-meter deep reinforced concrete basement where foodstuffs were stored. This building was not fireproof. The dining room, library, and club were described as follows:
- a. Dining Room. This was located on the first floor and had a 300 person capacity.
 - b. Library. This was located on the second floor. In addition to the books it subscribed to the following newspapers, Zarya Vostoka, Pravda, Izvestiya, and Komsomolskaya Pravda. A worker was in charge of signing out books and newspapers.
 - c. Club. This was a theater which was located also on the second floor. The theater contained two movie projectors of unknown make; movies were shown about three times a week and the theater had a 500 person capacity. Conferences on international affairs, given by Tbilisi Party officials, were held here frequently.

Building No. 13

16. Apprentice school. This was an old two-story 40 x 15 x 12-meter "ruff" stone structure with a wooden framework and a tile roof. A basement which was the size of half of the floor space was referred to as the "Control Station" (KP); [redacted] entrance was forbidden [redacted] believed it was an air raid shelter. The first floor contained the living quarters for the 100 apprentices between the ages of 16 and 18 who were studying a three-year course which included practical study of the machinery used in the textile industry. The second floor contained the classrooms where subjects pertaining to the textile industry were taught. The classrooms had a capacity for 100 students; [redacted]

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Raw Materials and Storage

17. The raw materials used in the textile mill were cotton which was shipped in 100 kilogram bales, "capron", and nylon which were supplied in one kilogram packages, coal by the metric ton and small quantities of oil, gasoline, wood, and caustic soda. Materials stored in warehouses No. 5 and No. 9 were in good condition. The workers were not permitted to smoke, the electric installations were airtight and fire extinguishers were located every 10 to 15 meters along the walls of each warehouse.

Electric Power and Water Supply

18. The plant received its electric power by means of two underground cables which came from Malaya Didube, a high tension substation located in the Stalinakiy rayon of Tbilisi, and another underground cable which came from the Elektro Depo which was an electric locomotive repair plant which was located approximately 300 meters south of the textile mill. The textile

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50X1-HUM

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50X1-HUM

- 8 -

mill used about 1,200 kilowatt hours of electricity every 24 hours. [redacted]
[redacted] electricity supply was sufficient; only one line was used and the other two were kept as an emergency supply. The mill had a 48-hour emergency water supply and two 240 horsepower centrifugal pumps. The water was supplied from the Natakhtar spring located about 15 kilometers from Tbilisi. This spring was carefully guarded.

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Packing

19. The stockings were packed in cardboard boxes, ten pairs to a box; the boxes were marked with the initials TPIK, the stocking size, and the number of pairs in the box. The thread was packed in bags or one cubic-meter wooden crates and marked with the initials TPIK and the thread number.

Transportation

20. A railroad siding, which entered on the north side of the mill grounds, connected with the Soviet standard gauge Severo-Kavkazskaya Zheleznaya Doroga (North Caucasian railroad line.) Concrete loading platforms which measured 50 x 2 x 1.5 meters were located in front of the warehouse No. 5. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

[redacted] three or four freight cars loaded with coal and cotton entered the mill each night. [redacted] 80 percent of the finished products were shipped by rail. The textile mill trucks used the Trikotazhnaya ulitsa which joined the Sovetskaya ulitsa; these were asphalt, 14-meter wide, all-season roads. Buses left the mill at 0630 hours each morning to pick up workers and returned to the mill at 0755 hours; the same buses left again to pick up the office personnel at 0755 hours and returned to the mill at 0830 hours.

Working Conditions

21. The actual manufacturing sections worked three shifts, an eight-hour morning and afternoon shift and a seven-hour night shift. The other sections worked two shifts, from 0800 to 1700 hours and from 1700 to 0100 hours. Holidays were May 1 and 2, November 7 and 8, October 5, January 1, March 8, and Sundays. Workers were given 12 to 18-day vacations and technicians were given 18 to 24-day vacations which were staggered throughout the year. Electricians earned from 440 to 750 rubles a month. [redacted]

[redacted] A worker who produced more than two norms or over 200 percent was rewarded with a 250 to 500 ruble bonus and sometimes with an honorary diploma.

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Security and Fire Prevention

22. The textile mill security staff was made up of 20 old or physically disabled workers who were armed with 'Fyati-Lineynaya' weapons. The guards were stationed at the warehouses, the garage, and the electric substation. Workers were required to present a propusk which was signed by the Deputy-Director, as they entered the mill. The fire brigade was made up of ten men who were in charge of cleaning hydrants loading fire extinguishers and holding practices and drills. Each shop in Building No. 1 contained 27 hydrants; the other buildings were provided with one or two hydrants.

Personnel

23. [redacted] the mill employed about 2,000 workers, the majority of whom were specialists. Each section was bossed by a shop chief, a master, and a work brigade chief. [redacted]

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- 9 -

50X1-HUM

Avelina Zakharovna Tovadze - Plant Director,

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Mikhail Ivanovich Shcherbakov - Chief engineer

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Dzhano Platonovich Gurgenedze - Electrical engineer

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Tigran Iosifovich Dilonyan - Chief of electric shop

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Shalva Gorbisheli - Guard and fire brigade chief

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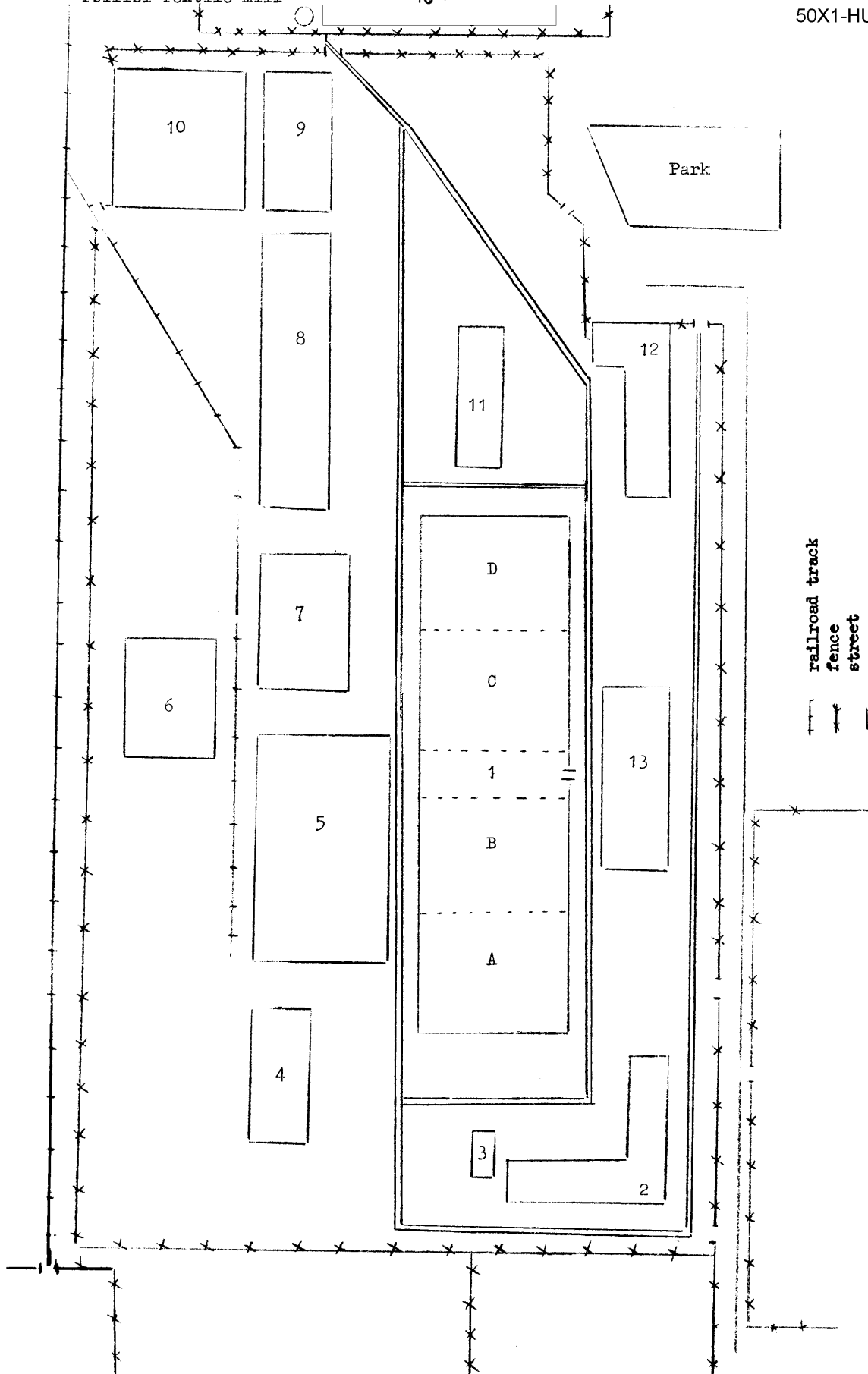
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Tbilisi Textile Mill

- 10 -



railroad track
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